



Advanced Exploration Systems  
RadWorks - Radiation Protection Technologies



# Advanced Neutron Spectrometer (ANS)

- **Advance Exploration System (AES) Sponsoring office**
- **RadWorks: JSC Lead**
  - JSC: charged particle sensors
  - LaRC: storm shelter and modeling
  - MSFC: neutron sensor
- **Spiral I: ANS Objectives (2012-2014)**
  - Develop neutron spectrometer for exploration missions
  - Year1: design, test and demonstrated 1<sup>st</sup> generation
  - Year2: critical comparison with state of the art techniques
  - Year3: 2<sup>nd</sup> generation design: 2.3 kg, 4W
- **Spiral II: ANS Objectives (2015-2017)**
  - ISS test flight demonstration
  - Year1/2: design, fabricate and test ANS-ISS
  - Year2: deploy to ISS
  - Year3: operate and acquire data for analysis
- **Spiral III: Operational for Manned Exploration (2018+)**



# Radiation Environment

- Radiation risk to crew includes charged particles and neutral particle (neutrons and gamma/x-ray)
- Sources of charged particles in LEO include: GCR, SEP, trapped particles
- Neutrons are generated through the interaction of the charged particles with any mass: spacecraft/habitats and planetary surface or atmosphere (e.g. albedo from Earth's atmosphere)



# Milestones

ID	Task Name	Start	Q4 15		Q1 16			Q2 16			Q3 16			Q4 16			Q1 17			Q2 17		
			Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	
1	Beam test (Germany)	12/14/2015		◆																		
2	Electronics Fabrication & Test	10/21/2015	[Blue bar from Dec 2015 to Mar 2016]																			
3	Mechanical Fabrication	10/21/2015	[Blue bar from Dec 2015 to Feb 2016]																			
4	EM Assembly & Test	1/15/2016	[Blue bar in Jan 2016]																			
5	FM Assembly & Test	2/1/2016	[Blue bar in Feb 2016]																			
6	Test & Verifications	1/12/2016	[Blue bar from Jan 2016 to May 2016]																			
7	EMI Test (MSFC)	3/9/2016	[Blue bar in Mar 2016]																			
8	Software laptop certification testing	2/1/2016	[Blue bar in Feb 2016]																			
9	Software Delivery	3/1/2016				◆																
10	Verification Submittal	4/11/2016	[Blue bar in Apr 2016]																			
11	Hardware Delivery to JSC	6/22/2016	◆																			
12	Launch	8/26/2016	◆																			
13	Operations	9/26/2016	[Blue bar from Sep 2016 to Dec 2016]																			



# Payload Team

Name	Org	Role
Mark Christl	ZP12	PI
Mohammad Sabra	USRA	Simulations
Joey Norwood	EM50	Simulations
Chris Dobson	ER24	Simulations
John Watts	UAH	Simulations
Jeff Apple	ES63	LE
Carl Benson	ES63	Test
Kurt Dietz	ES63	Software
Michele Foster	ES13	System/OPS
Brian Gibson	ES36	FPGA
Doug Huie	UAH	Tech
Terry Jones	QD22	S&MA

Name	Org	Role
Evgeny Kuznetsov	UAH	Analog
Garrick Merrill	ES36	Layout
Donna Prsha	ES11	SE
Miguel Rodriguez	ES36	Power
Dennis Smith	ES36	DC/DC
Keary Smith	ES36	DC/DC
Gary Thornton	ES36	Mechanical

Name	Org	Role
Catherine Mcleod	JSC	PM
Eddie Semones	JSC	Technical



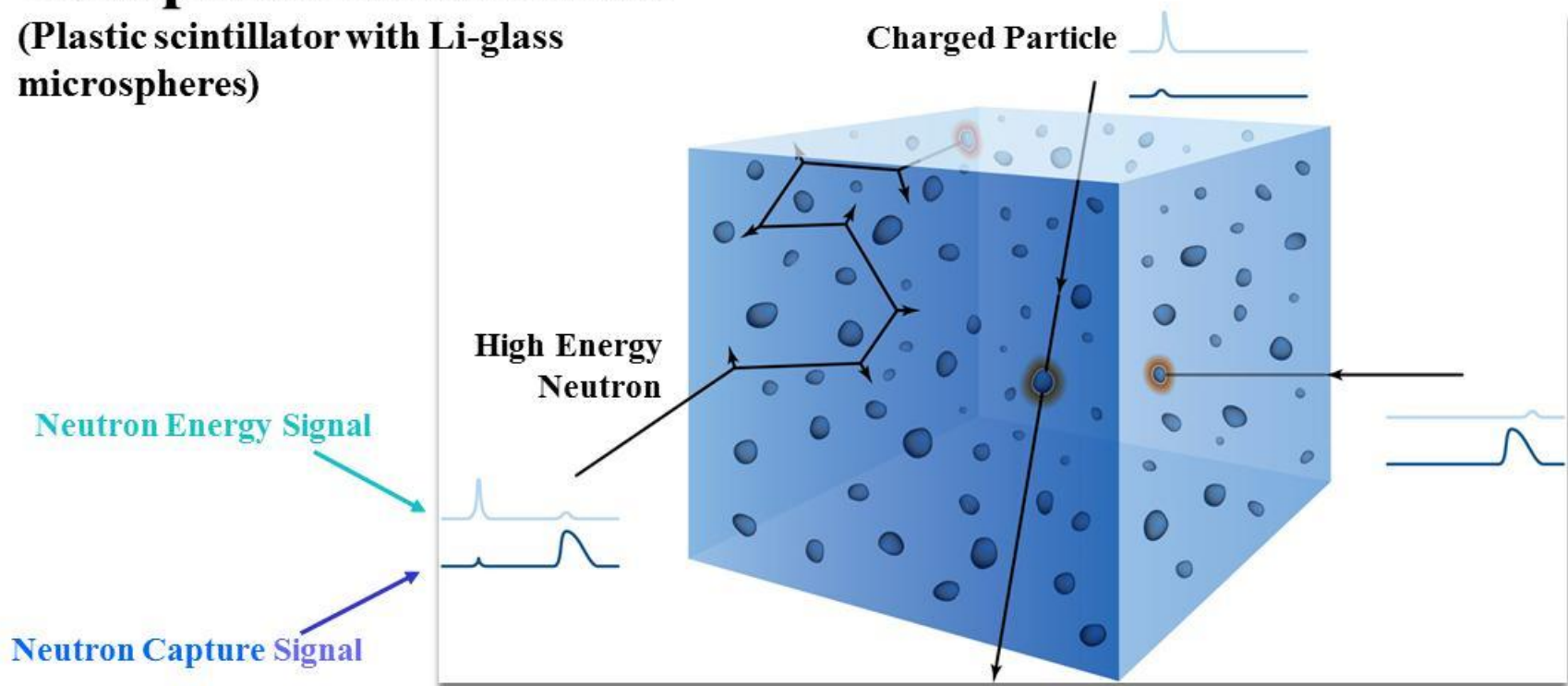


# FNS Detection Technique

## Gate and Capture Technique for neutrons

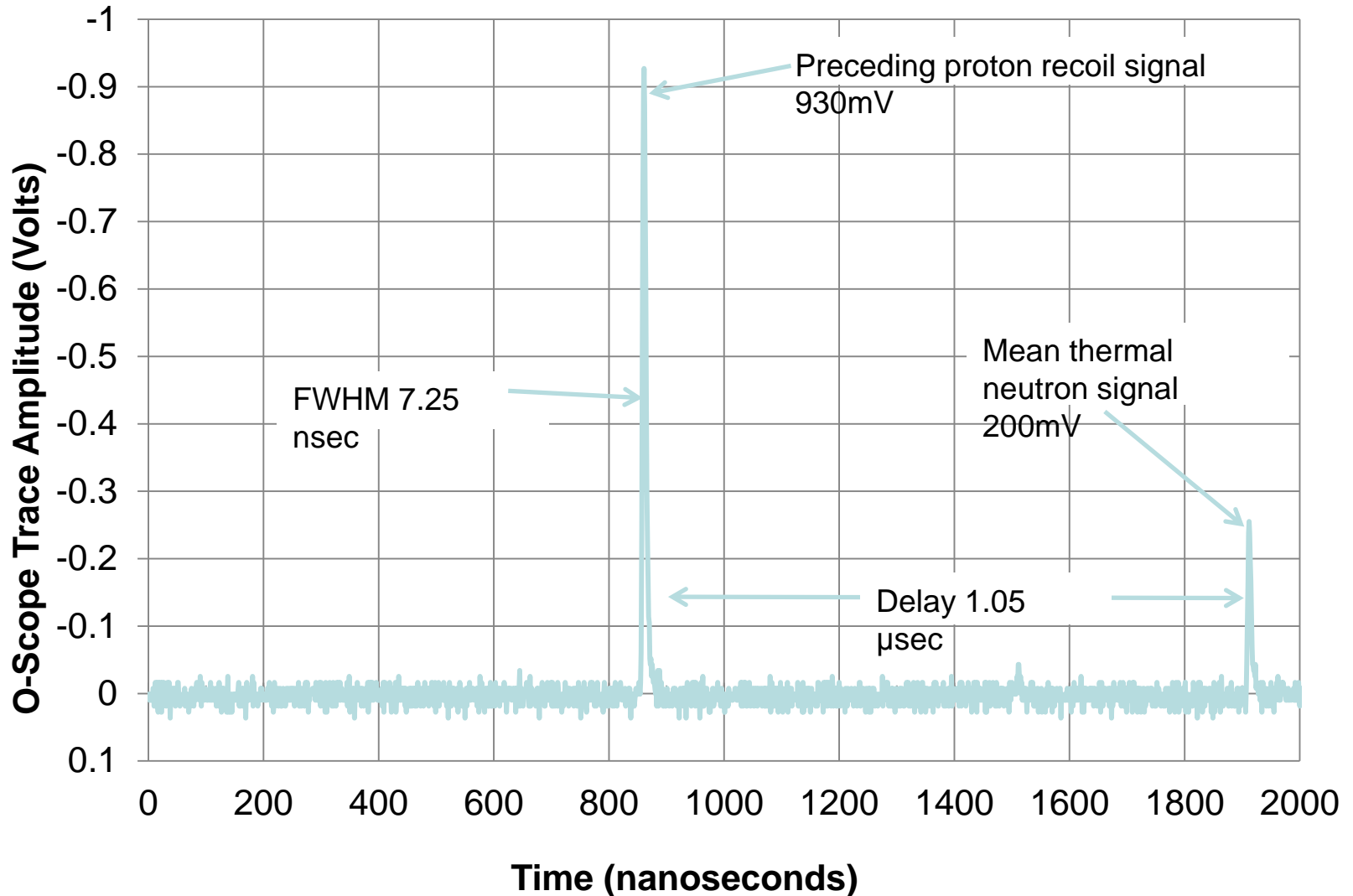
### Composite Scintillator

(Plastic scintillator with Li-glass microspheres)



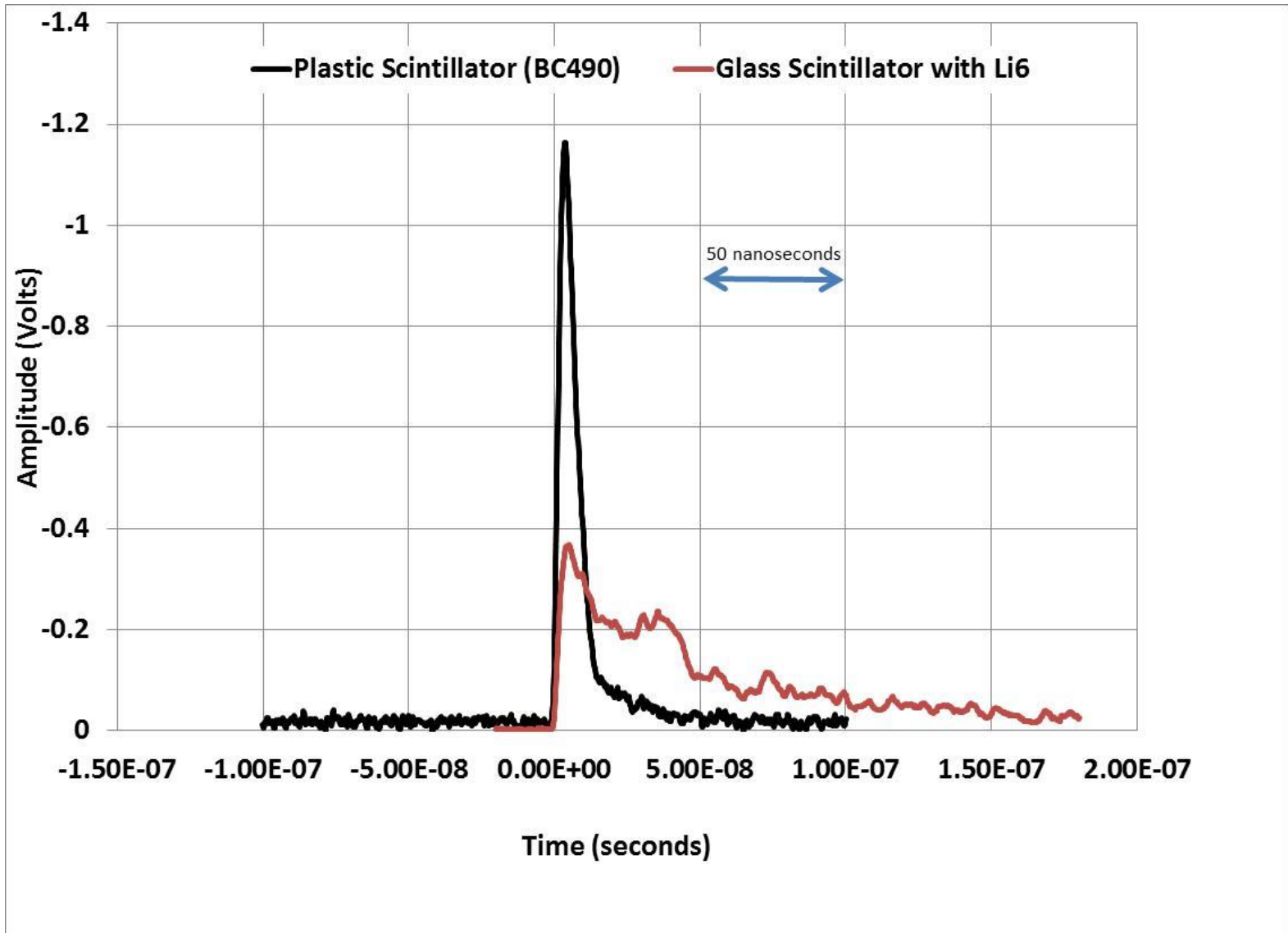


## BC454 Sample data for neutron capture





# Comparison of Scintillation Signal in plastic and Li-6 glass







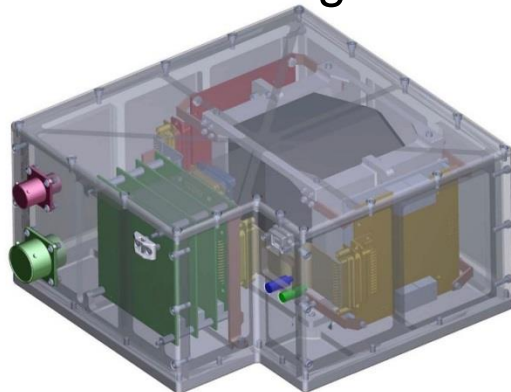
# FNS Summary

## Objectives

- The ISS provides a relevant spaceflight environment for testing hardware
- Mature the ANS measurement technique and design
- Deploy to ISS for >6 month mission
- Transmit data to ground for analysis
- Analyze data to determine the fast neutron spectrum on the ISS
- Compare with FND
- Evaluate environment background

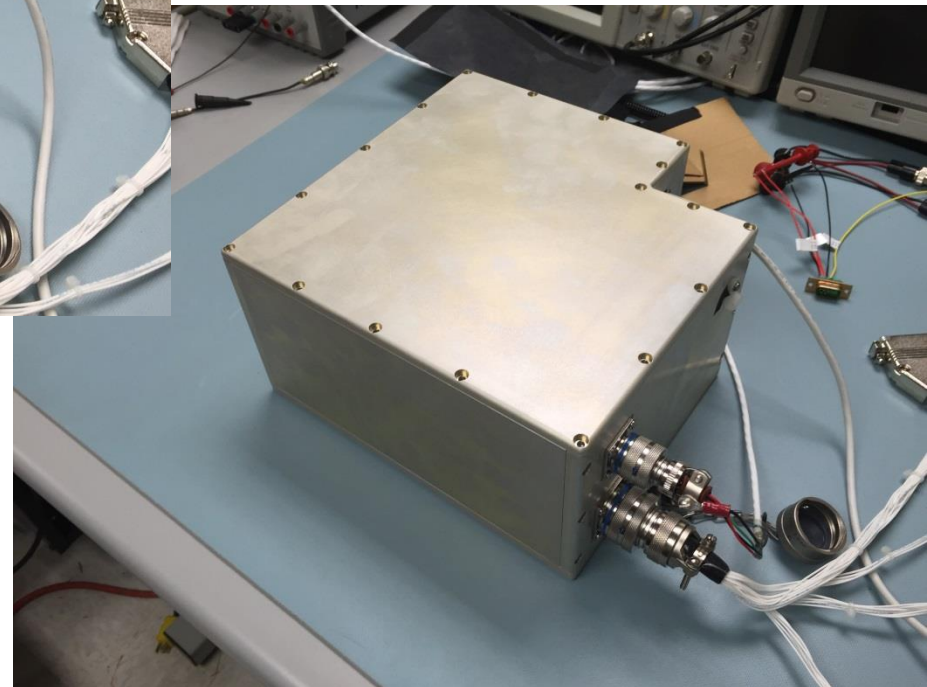
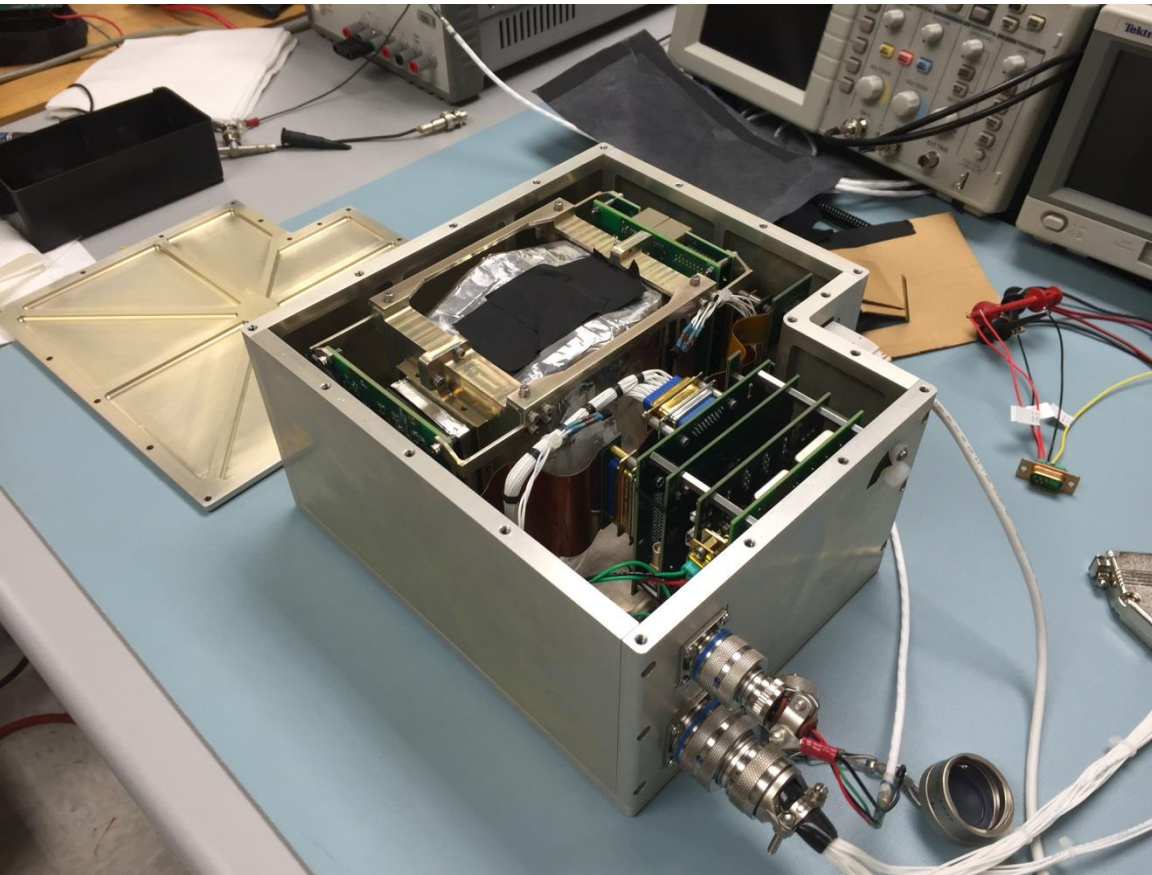
## Allocation

- Mass: 4.9 kgs
- Volume: 5.2"x9.6"x10"
- Power: <7.5 W
- Voltage: 28 VDC
- Data Link: USB to ISS laptop
- Data Rate: 100 kbits/sec
- Attachment location: Internal
- Attachment method: Velcro
- Mission
  - Primary: 6 months
  - Secondary: ISS duration
- Launch configuration: Soft stow
- Payload readiness date:  
June/July 2016





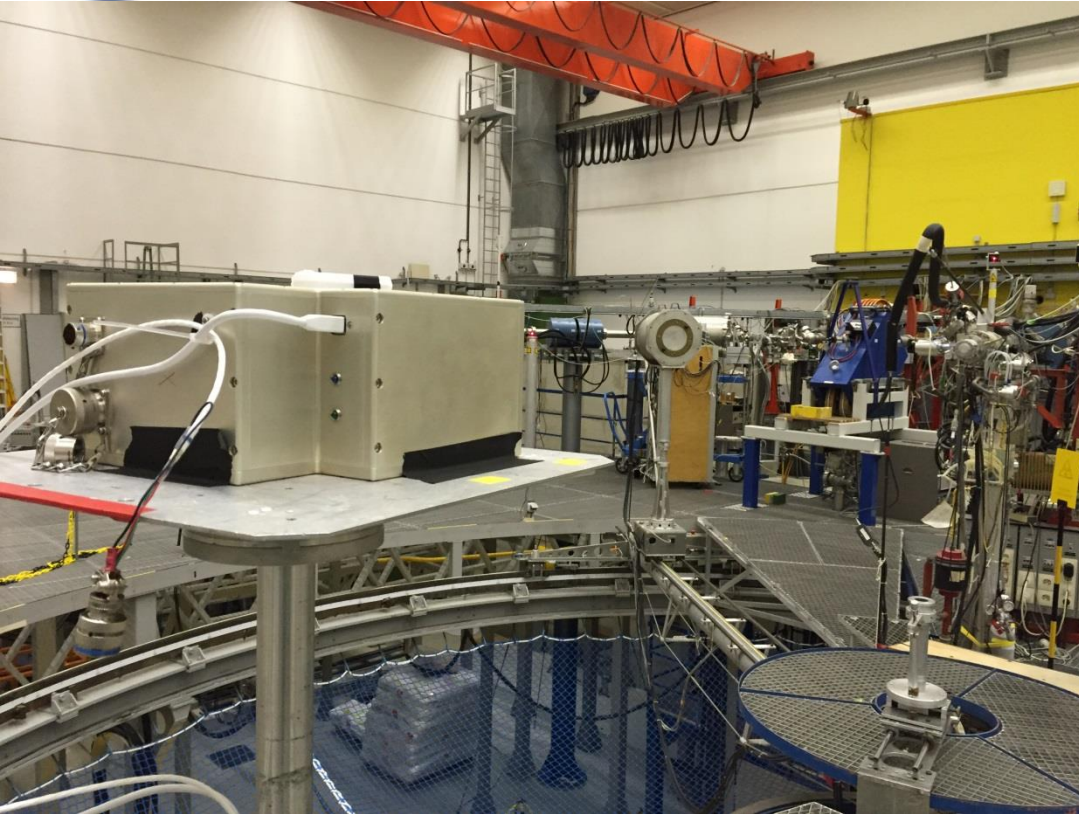
# Engineering Detector for Calibration







# EM Calibration Germany Dec 2015



Source Spectra:  
AmBe 4-8 MeV  
Cf 0-1.2 MeV

Neutron Energies:  
0.26, 0.57, 1.2 , 2.5  
5, 8 & 14.8 MeV





# FNS Assembly & Interfaces

Velcro attach point top/ bottom  
Enclosure 6061-T6 Al  
Fasteners 300 Cres SS

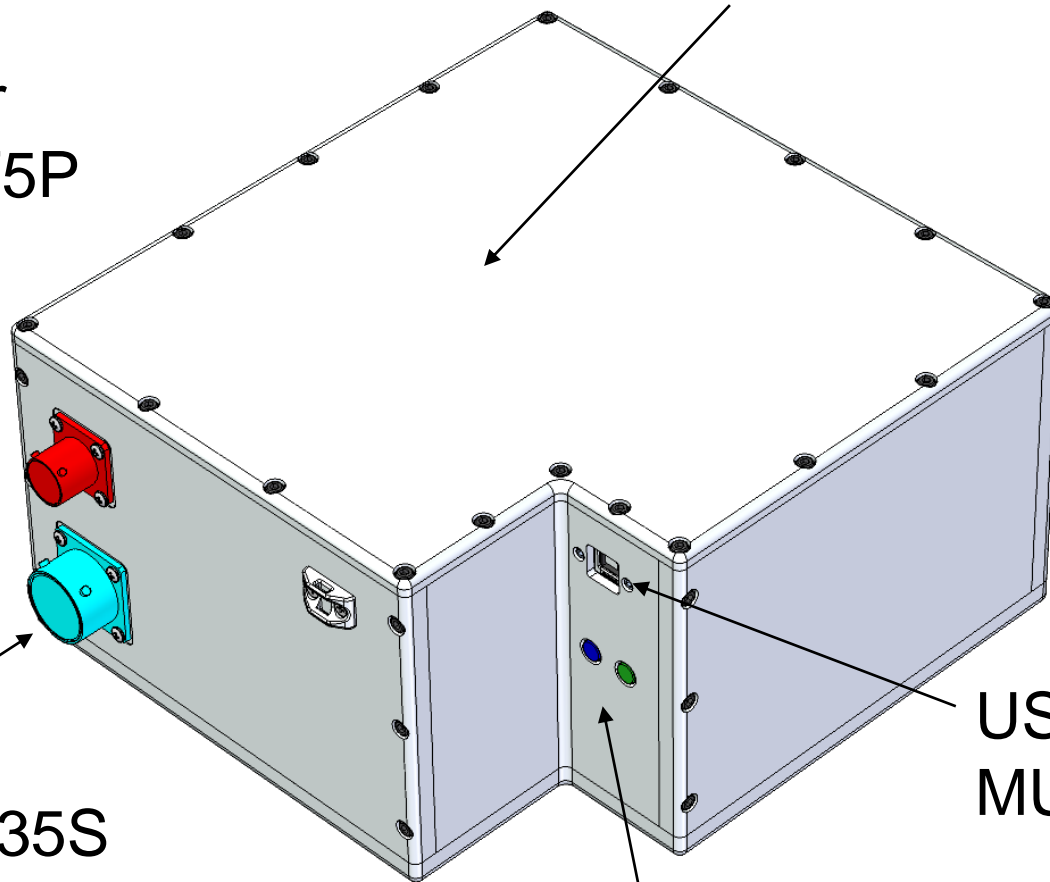
28 VDC Power  
MS27466T11F5P

GSE I/O  
MS27466T17F35S

USB 2.0 Type B  
MUSB-D111-30

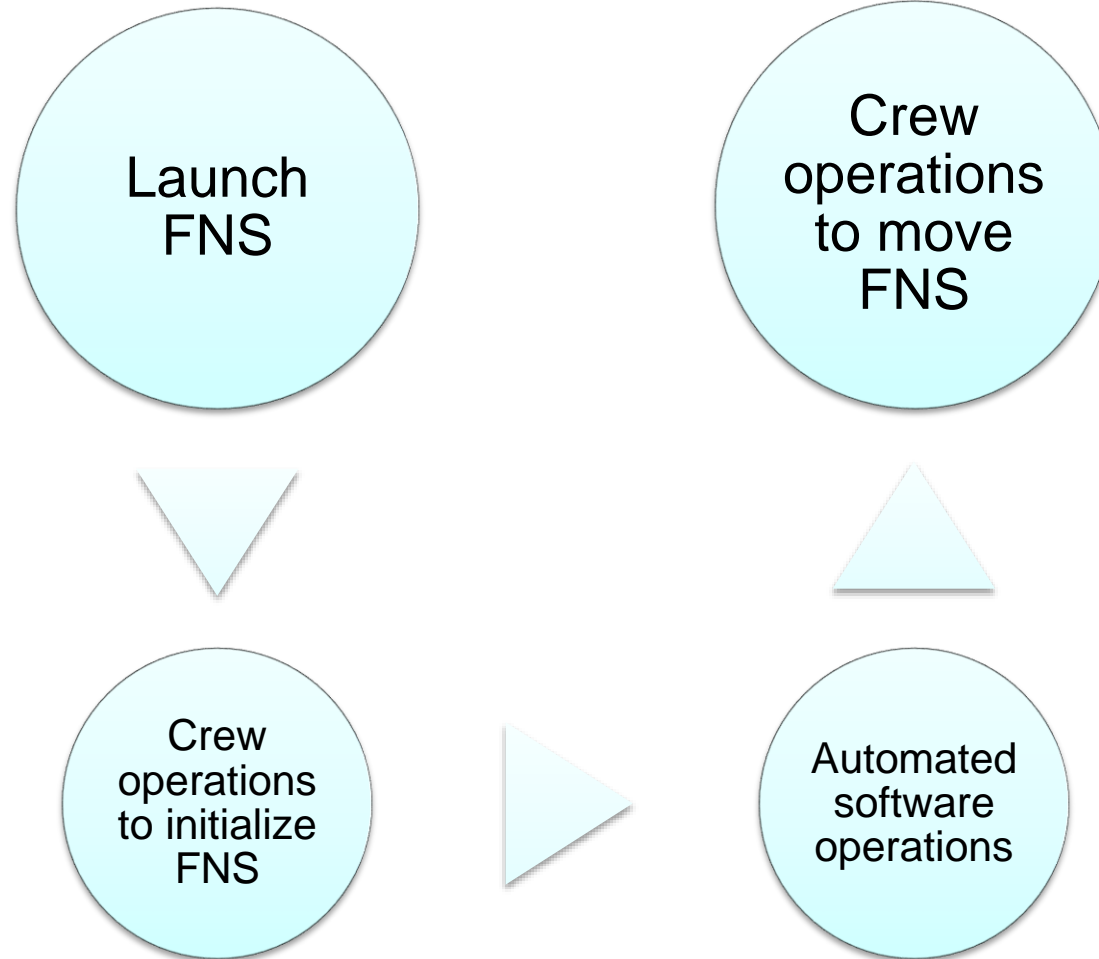
LEDs  
Blue = data transferring  
Green = power on<sup>12</sup>

Overall envelope 10.0" x 9.6" x 5.2"  
Mass 10.8 lbs





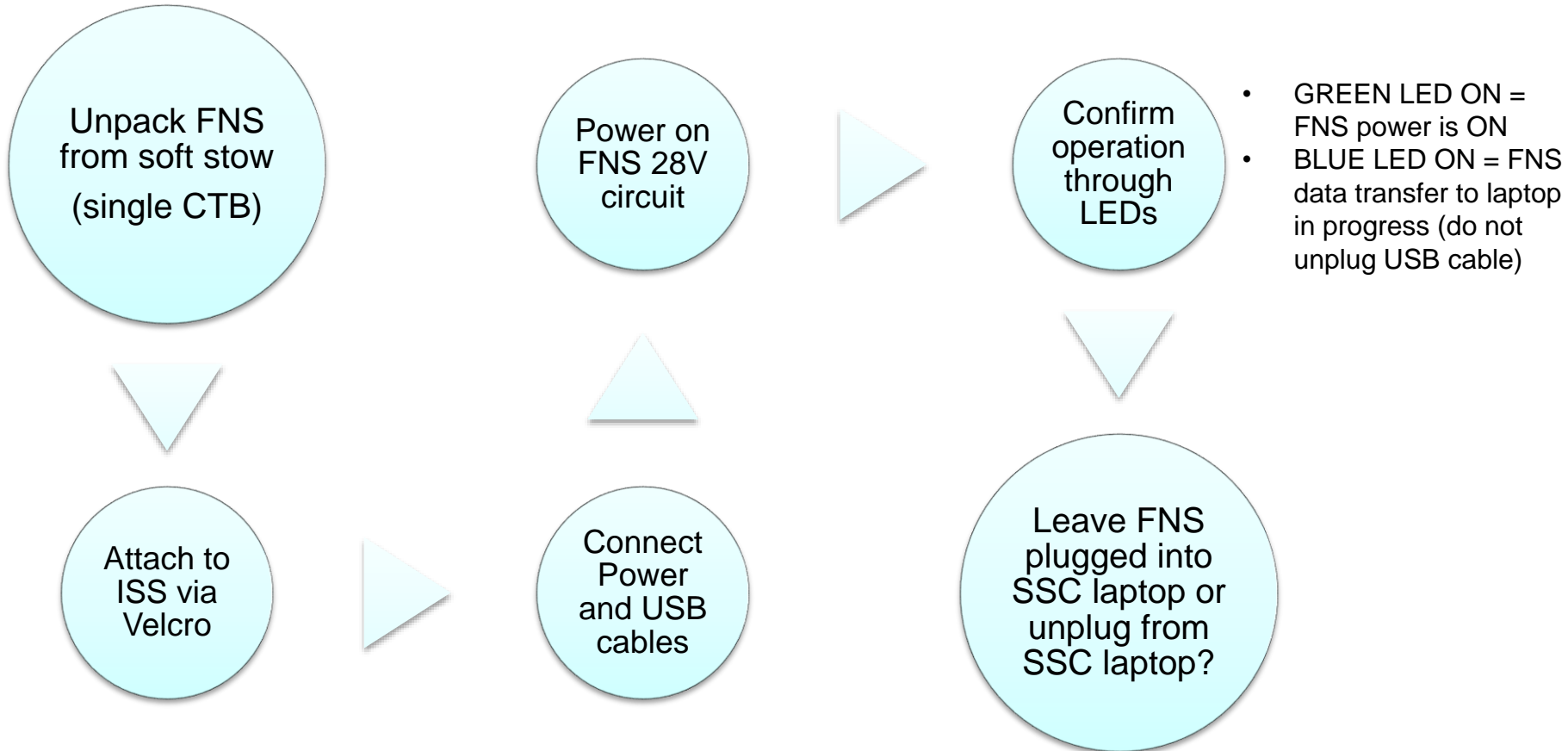
# Fast Neutron Spectrometer Operations



Iterative process repeated at  
Multiple ISS locations in U.S. Segment



# Crew Operations



Preferred Configuration  
Plugged into SSC

- FNS will continue operations and store data to internal memory
- FNS software will transfer data to laptop once per day

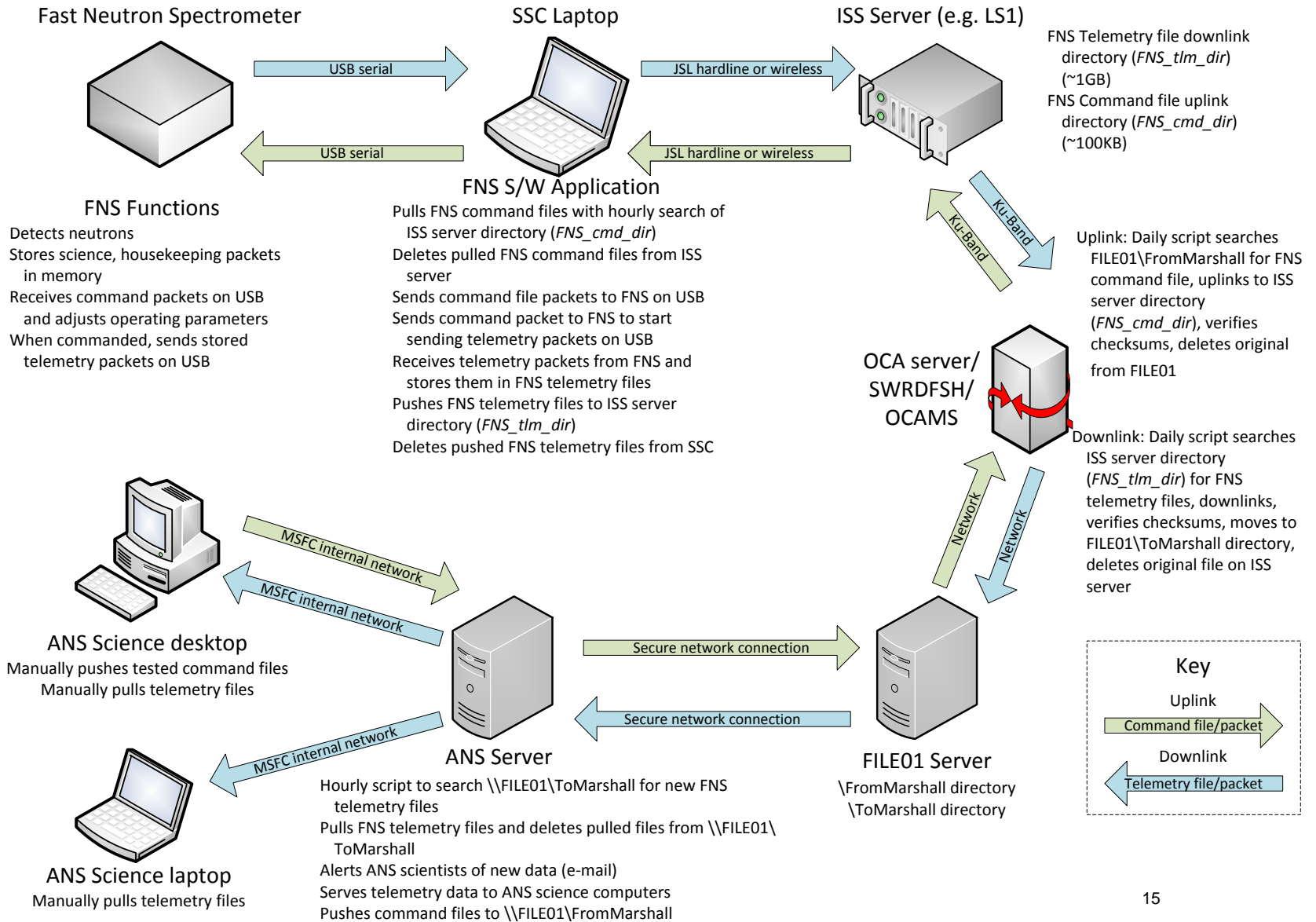
Unplugged from SSC

- FNS will continue operations and store data to internal memory
- Crew must connect FNS to laptop within 3 (TBC) days



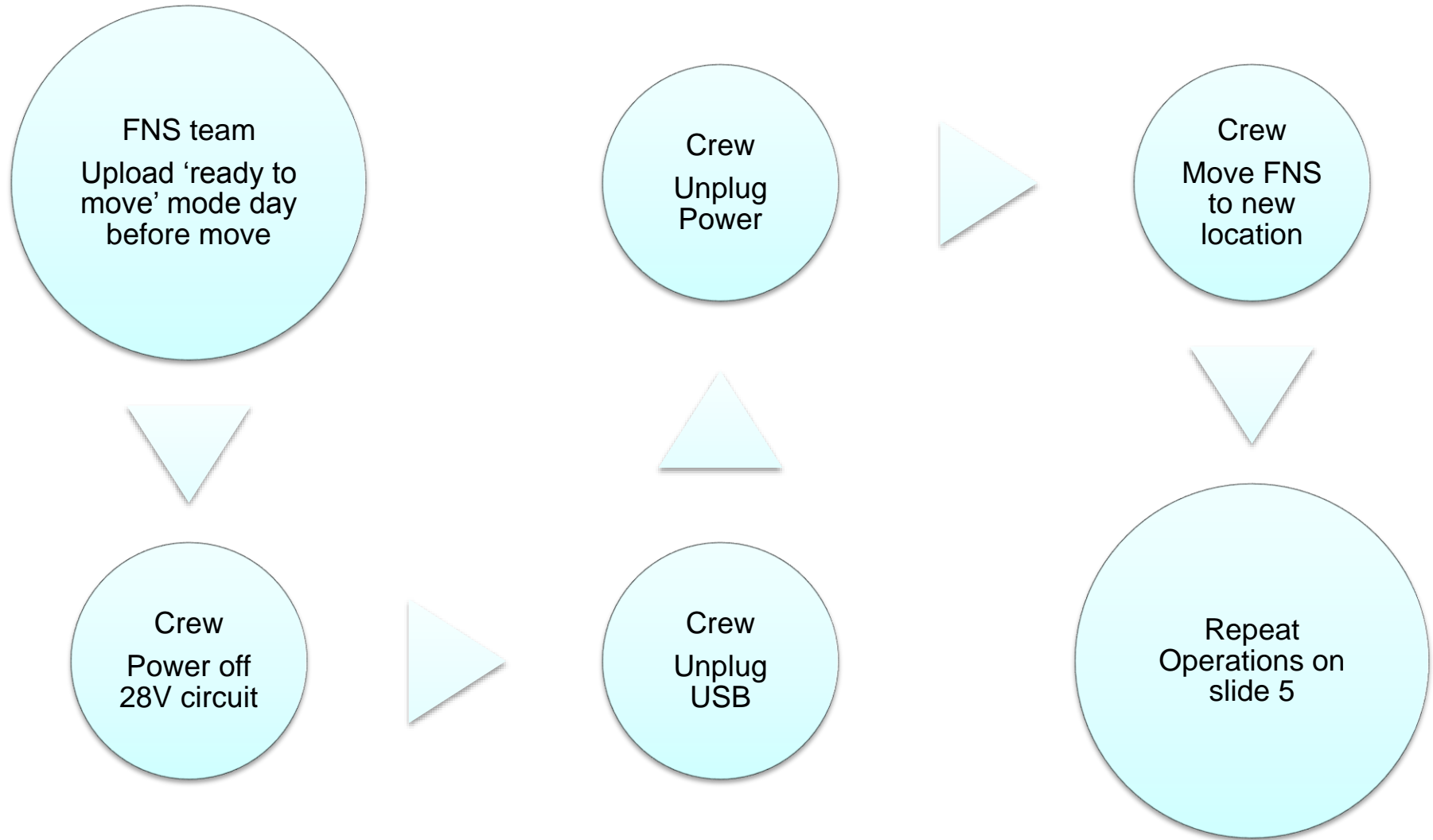


# FNS Data Path





# Crew Operations to Move FNS (Locations TBD)



- FNS must be moved near a SSC laptop in the U.S. Segment
  - FNS will be moved 2 times over six months.



# FNS SSC Application basics

(FNS detector has no software)

1. **Starts automatically at SSC power-up (as a service)**
2. **Runs without human intervention for as long as the SSC is powered**
3. **Detects connection of FNS hardware, and immediately and at periodic intervals:**
  - Sends commands to establish connection and set time on FNS hardware
  - Moves any existing command files from ISS flight server to SSC
  - Uploads command files from SSC to FNS
  - Sends command to begin downlinking telemetry from FNS
  - Receives telemetry from FNS and store it on SSC laptop until termination telemetry packet, disconnection, or telemetry timeout.
  - Moves telemetry files from SSC to ISS flight server
4. **Detects disconnection of ANS-ISS hardware, stops all communications and threads, and ceases all activities above except (perhaps) the last.**